

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 912

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mr. Samuel R. Bacon
on the celebration of his 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Bacon will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 1, 2000, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bacon was reared in the home of his loving family on a dairy farm just north of Baltimore County, Maryland; his devoted and caring family included 40 aunts and uncles and several cousins; and

WHEREAS, a self-motivated young man, Samuel Bacon attended the University of Maryland in College Park where he earned a degree in agronomy and graduated in 1924; throughout his college years he worked hard for his Uncle Lewis Bacon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bacon utilized his life experience and knowledge he gained as an employee at the Maryland Agriculture Experiment Station, and later at the North Carolina Station for a period of three years; and

WHEREAS, in 1928, Samuel Bacon began his tenure with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry; he served with rare acumen and alacrity in a variety of

duties, which required him to travel throughout the United States, and to several foreign countries including posts in Louisiana, Nebraska, and Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Plant Industry was enveloped by the Soil Conservation District and moved Mr. Bacon several times; during an appointment in West Tennessee he met Reba K. Broyles and the fine couple were joined in holy matrimony in 1939; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bacon and his family moved to Cookeville in 1950 and later bought a farm which he skillfully managed and built, acting as a good steward to the land and an excellent example of conservation; he also had horses and cattle and supplemented the natural environment by planting pine trees; and

WHEREAS, after 35 years of meritorious service to the federal government, Mr. Bacon retired at the age of 63; and, upon his retirement, this remarkable man continued to uphold the noble precepts of hard work; an astute businessman, he immediately went into business as an entrepreneur with novelties and personalized key chains; he remained in business for the next 17 years and retired in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Bacon feels fortunate to have enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, the late Reba Bacon; and

WHEREAS, he is the proud father of two daughters, Susanne Bacon and Janet Baggett; he is also the devoted grandfather of four grandsons, and great-grandfather of three great-grandsons, and one great-granddaughter; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual, Mr. Bacon shares his good fortune with the community, contributing on a regular basis to more than 30 charities; and

WHEREAS, he eagerly supported his devoted wife, an educator and lover of art, in her quest to establish an art league in Cookeville; thanks to this fine couple's generosity, the Cumberland Art Society flourishes today; their efforts in the Benlee Art Show encouraged art and creativity in the Upper Cumberland are as for over a quarter century; and

WHEREAS, he is an active and valued member of the First United Methodist Church in Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, as he approaches his 11th decade, Mr. Bacon is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events; and

WHEREAS, he generously delivered Meals on Wheels for 25 years and fertilized and mowed many Cookeville lawns; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, a benefactor of the Cumberland Art Society and Cookeville Senior Citizens where he is very active; he volunteers his time and company four days per week helping people exercise and play checkers, chess, and card games; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bacon believes that walking is one avenue to good health; he enjoys walks on a regular basis and, in 1974, he walked almost seventy miles from Lebanon to Monterey in a single day; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Bacon is an avid gardener, sharing the fruits of his labor with friends and neighbors; this outstanding man still plants tomatoes, cooks, drives, reads, and attends church; and

WHEREAS, we wish to take this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Mr. Samuel R. Bacon on the celebration of his 100th birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.